Dear Parents and Carers,

Congratulations to the Student Representative Council (SRC) who held a fundraiser last Friday, "World's Greatest Spray" which raised $767.95 for the Leukaemia Foundation. It was noted a few teachers and even a Principal who were sporting "crazy hair colours" - Lots of fun! Thanks to Mrs Horton for her guidance and enthusiasm. Thanks also to the hard work and enthusiasm of the SRC members.

Last week Ashbury had a focus on Anti-Bullying and tied this in with Harmony Day last Thursday. Students also had the opportunity in Peer Support to learn how to build positive relationships with others; how to include others in all activities; how to be careful not to bully anyone or let anyone bully someone else and how to be a good friend. I believe it is important as an educator and adult for us to realise that we have to teach our children these skills, model these skills and give guidance to children to practice these skills.

If you have any concerns for your children in this area please make sure you talk to their classroom teacher.

A survey from National Youth Mental Health Foundation found that only one in seven parents (14%) are confident they would know the signs that their child is bullying others. The survey of more than 400 Australian parents revealed that while bullying is a major concern they don't feel like they have the tools they need to spot trouble and provide the right support for their kids.

"Organisations, like Headspace, can help young people deal with things that might be troubling them, whether they are the victims of bullying or they've found themselves bullying others as a way of coping with problems." Chris Tanti, CEO of Headspace, the National Youth Mental Health Foundation, said “Bullying behavior can be a red flag that your child might be
going through a tough time and it is important to spot the warning signs.”
“Bullying doesn’t just occur among young people at school, it happens in the workplace and in the political arena every day. Parents and adults need to teach by example and show young people that bullying isn’t acceptable.”

Five warning signs that a child might be exhibiting bullying behaviour:

1. Been a victim of bullying themselves
2. Want to be in control
3. Frustrated or anxious
4. In a peer group that encourages bullying
5. Increased aggression-argumentative or defiant

Five tips for parents:

1. Get involved in activities and know their friendship groups
2. Talk to your child about bullying
3. Provide clear, consistent consequence for bullying
4. Teach by example
5. Get professional support

To access professional support and information go to headspace.org.au

However there are also rules around the use of the playground to ensure that everyone stays safe. Students are only allowed to use the equipment at lunchtime with teacher supervision and students can use the equipment after school if their parent is at the equipment supervising their safety. These rules also include pre-schoolers. Please abide by these rules or the playground will be out of bounds in the afternoons after school.

Signing into the office.
All visitors, including parents, must go to the office and sign in if entering the school during school time, other than before school for drop-off and after school for pick-up. The office needs to know who is on-site if there is an emergency so we know who we need to account for.

I ask parents not to enter the buildings and especially not to be peering into the classes through the windows as this can be quite distracting for the class. Teachers are often giving final instructions for the day at this time.

If you need to take your child out of school early or if you are late for school we require you to go to the office to sign the student out or in.

Class rolls are marked at 9am when students first enter the classrooms.

Work Health & Safety (WHS)
Playground equipment use in the school:
We are very happy that our students and families really enjoy and get a lot of use from the school playground equipment.
KITCHEN GARDEN WORKSHOPS
We are very excited that our Stage 3 students have been involved in cooking lessons in our Community Garden. Kitchen Garden Specialist, Jo Anne Calabria, has run these fun and hands-on workshops in our outdoor classroom. All four classes have now made and tasted delicious ginger beer.
Thanks to the Community Garden Committee which has continued to work hard not only in creating our beautiful garden but also in designing ways that our students can become involved. Well done!

SCHOOL Banking
Students need to have their school bank books into the office by the last Friday of the Month, but for the months of March and April it will be a week later due to Easter and the April School Holidays. Children banking through the St George Bank at school teaches students about the value of money and the notion of saving money.

2013 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS)
A note went home on 21 March inviting students to register for the 2013 competitions which are held during Term 2 and 3 in Computer Skills, Science, Spelling, Writing, English and Mathematics. Entries close on Friday 12 April, 2013. If you require a form to register please see the front office.

Parent Networking is a wonderful strategy and the school encourages parents to get involved with the school. However, I would ask for you not to get caught up in “school-yard” gossip. If you have a problem please ensure you make an appointment with the classroom teacher to discuss the matter. If you are not satisfied please see one of our Assistant Principals: Mrs Mitchell for concerns in Stage 1 and Early Stage 1 (Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2); Miss Stephenson for matters concerning Stage 2 (Years 3 and 4) and Mrs D’Arrigo for Stage 3 (Years 5 and 6). If you are still concerned please make an appointment with Mrs Shelley (Principal).

Pennant winners:
Fletcher, Samantha B, Millie M, Lachlan S, Seeddharta, Ella N, Lola N, Ellis JF, Ruby F, Riley P, Christina G

Pennant Reminder:
Don’t forget to keep your Double As, Merit Cards and Superstars safe and return to your teacher when you have achieved enough for a Pennant. 5 Superstars earns you a Pennant. If your cards have not been used (stamped on the back) then you can use them from previous year(s).

As the Easter long weekend approaches, thousands of families are set to hit the roads for holidays. Remember road safety is everybody’s business. Stay alert, stay safe and have a happy Easter break!

If you are staying around Ashbury please keep an eye out for the school. If you see anything people in the school who shouldn’t be please phone Ashfield Police on 9798 4400

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Dates for your Diary

Term 1 2013

Fri 29 March-Mon 1 April- Easter break
Sat 6/Sunday 7 April- Band Camp
Fri 12 April- last day of Term 1

Term 2 2013 -

Mon 29 April- Staff Development Day
Tues 30 April (Additional Staff Development Day due to new Curriculum)
Wed 1 May - Students return for Term 2
Tues 14 May, Wed 15 May & Thurs 16 May- NAPLAN Testing
Wed 22 May- School Walkathon (P&C)
Mon 10 June- Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Term 3 2013- Tues 16 July-students Return
Thurs 1 Aug- Ashbury Athletics Carnival
At Campbell Oval
Friday 20 Sept- Last day of Term 3

Term 4- Tues 8 Oct-Wed 18 Dec

S.Shelley
Principal

FLUTE LESSONS!!

Meghan Fitzgerald is a Friendly, Fun & Fully University Qualified Teacher

T: 9799 7877
Studio: 6 Lackey St, Summer Hill
www.innerwestmusiccollege.com.au

PIANO LESSONS

Gabriella is a qualified teacher with over thirty years of extensive piano teaching experience. Her unique method is individually tailored to each student and what they would like to achieve.

- AMEB exam preparation and theory or musicianship tuition is also available.

- Whether students are beginners, intermediate or advanced, these lessons are a weekly experience that everyone will enjoy.

CONTACT -
GABRIELLA PEKANOVIC
PHONE +61 2 9799 7595
MOBILE +61 402 66 88 74
WWW_LOVETOPLAY.COM.AU
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS DRAMA SCENE

15th 16th 17th 18th 19th APRIL
PLAY 1, 2, 3, 4 OR 5 DAYS
$45 - $55+GST PER DAY - CLAIM CCB RECEIPT

PLACES AVAILABLE
LOCAL LOCATION: Taverners Hill Infants School
We are celebrating Drama Scene’s 11th year of holiday programs.

Years K 1 2 3
THIS HOLIDAYS, BE INSPIRED BY OUR FAVOURITE BOOKS

Monday 15 – NEVER MAIL AN ELEPHANT
It is enormous fun to pretend to be animals and even more amazing to actually wrap an Elephant!

Tuesday 16 – AMY & LOUIS
Let’s explore the world with help from our Useful Box and costumes.

Wednesday 17 – BUMPSAURUS
Hatch out of eggs into a day filled with drama games and set out on an adventure to find some prehistoric crafts.

Thursday 18 – CASTLES
Can drama monsters teach Pirates & Princesses to share sandcastles?

Friday 19 – THERE WAS AN OLD BLOKE WHO ...
Swallowed a Bunny! Shadow puppets and drama games will help us discover what happens next.

AGES 9 -13

15th: VICTORIOUS IMPROVISATION
Discover the victorious feeling of playing winning improv’ scenes.

16th: MAKING DRAMA
Create a play with costumes and very unusual and original props.

17th: DOCTORIN’ THE TARDIS
Where can your imagination go? Let the drama Tardis take you there.

18th: MONSTER MASH
With games and playmaking inspired by this song, monsters can’t go wrong.

19th: THERE WAS AN OLD BLOKE WHO SWALLOWED A BUNNY
Flex your character artistry to bring a story to life with shadow puppetry.

STEPHANIE WAITES: 0407 235 914
www.dramascene.com.au
WORKSHOPS 9:30AM – 4:00PM Before Care from 8:00AM / After Care until 6:00PM